

ON A FORGOTTEN GENUS OF SHARKS DESCRIBED BY NARDO.

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In a paper entitled "Osservazione Ittiologiche" in the *Annali delle Scienze del Regno Lombardo-Veneto*, 1843, Professor Gian Domenico Nardo, described a genus of sharks, to which I have seen no subsequent allusion. He calls the genus *Caninoa* or *Caninotus* in honor of Charles Lucien Bonaparte, prince of Canino.

The type is *Squalus barbarus* Nardo or *Caninoa ciereghini* Nardo. This shark is said to have but one dorsal fin, inserted behind the ventrals, the gills 5 as in ordinary sharks; no spiracles; the teeth equal, triangular, elongate, very sharp, dentate at the base. The tail is not described.

This agrees with no known shark. It is barely possible that it is based on an individual of *Carcharhinus commersoni* which had its first dorsal fin bitten off while very young. The Hexanchidæ, sharks with one dorsal fin, have spiracles, and teeth of a different type. A deep water shark, *Pentanchus* Smith & Radcliffe, lately described from the Philippines, has but one dorsal and five gill openings. The small dorsal is, however, inserted over the very long anal and the tricuspid teeth could hardly be described as merely dentate at base. *Pentanchus* has minute spiracles. *Caninoa* is therefore based on a mutilation or on some shark not seen since the original discovery.